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August 5, 2008

EU8

LUNCH AGENDA ITEM : LETTER TO ALDE **RELEASED IN FULL**

ISSUE: The Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe who are members of the European Parliament Temporary Committee on the alleged use of European countries by the CIA for the transport and illegal detention of prisoners (TDIP) have written to the SYG requesting access to the full text of the NATO Council Decision Sheet on the implementation of Article 5 on October 4, 2001, following the 9/11 attacks. ALDE says that the statement to the press "could ... pave the way for allegations and speculations in connection with alleged CIA flights on ... European soil." ALDE has also invited the SYG to testify to the committee.

The SYG has proposed points for a letter in response to ALDE that there is full solidarity on the support for the invocation of Article 5, the press statement accurately reflects the contents of the decision sheet, the decisions are still in force, the decisions reflect an agreement among Allies and NATO does not coordinate the implementation of the decision, and, finally, the SSYG does not intend to testify before the TDIP.

TALKING POINTS: Support the SYG in the points he has raised in response to the letter, in particular noting the fact that the decision sheet is not a public document and the press statement accurately and adequately reflects the elements of the decision. We have sent the request back to Washington for comment but have no further guidance at this time.

ATTACHMENTS:

SG (2006) 0341

Letter from ALDE to the SYG

SYG's Elements of a Possible Reply

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